

Bonnie Brook Restoration, Waukegan, IL

Great Lakes Fishery & Ecosystem Restoration

Habitat Focus Area

Project Location: Located in the head waters of the Waukegan River North Branch, this 1.4 mile reach of stream and riparian zone begins in an open field of the Waukegan airport, flows through Bevier Park and Bonnie Brook golf course and drains into southern Lake Michigan. Waukegan, Illinois is approximately 42 miles north of Chicago on the western shoreline of Lake Michigan. The non-Federal sponsor is the Waukegan Park District.

Project Description: The reach of the proposed stream restoration flows through an urban environment which consists of a public park, a bird sanctuary and a golf course. Throughout this reach, 6 weirs prevent up-stream fish migration and degrade natural stream hydraulics and sediment transport. Lack of natural hydrology and human disturbance has altered the local plant communities which consist primarily of non-native species such as buckthorn.

Ecosystem Benefits: This restoration project will improve in-stream habitat and hydraulic functions by removing excess urban runoff, removing 6 weirs, placing natural cobble riffles to restore stream bed elevations and prevent head cutting from weir removals. Riparian restoration includes expanding side stream and tributary wetlands, removing non-native plant species, and planting the entire corridor with native riparian vegetation. River connectivity will be restored by removing or providing passage for fish where the 6 weirs currently prevent this. The restored native stream and riparian habitat will maximize local biodiversity and wildlife especially for macroinvertebrates, fishes, reptiles and amphibians. The restoration totals about 1.4-miles of stream and 45-acres.

Schedule:

Milestone	Date
Award Construction Contract	Sep 2012

Project Location:



North Branch of the Waukegan River

Estimated Project Costs:

Federal	\$2,000,000	
Nonfederal	\$1,076,923	
Total	\$3,076,923	
FY2011 Funding		
DPR /P&S (GLRI)	\$300,000	
Construction (E&W)	\$1,700,000	
Total	\$2,000,000	
FY2012 Funding		
Const Mgmt & S&A	\$75,000	
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Nonfederal Partner: Waukegan Park District

Status: Project is in the feasibility phase. With adequate funding the project could be ready for construction award in Sept 2012.

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